



## CALGARY

### Weekly Newscasts Lesson Plan

May 23, 2016

Newscasts are current news stories read at a slower pace than you might hear on the radio. These are read by CBC news editor Natasha Frakes.

#### Objectives:

- To develop listening skills
- To increase vocabulary
- To increase knowledge of current events
- To provide a user-friendly, self-study tool for learners, as well as an ESL classroom resource for instructors

#### Contents:

Three news stories are featured in each weekly lesson plan. Each lesson contains vocabulary and listening comprehension activities. At the end of each lesson, you will find a complete transcript and an answer key. This lesson plan is aimed towards learners at an intermediate language level (i.e. Canadian Language Benchmarks 4-5 or equivalent).



Learning English with CBC is a joint project with CBC Calgary, CBC Edmonton, and the Government of Alberta. Lesson Plans are prepared by ESL Contractor, Deidre Lake, Communication4Integration.

© CBC 2015 Permission is granted to reproduce these pages for educational purposes only. For more information on copyright, please click: <http://www.cbc.ca/permissions>

## NEWSCAST 1

### INCREASED FINES IN CALGARY



Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/calgary-parking-tickets-set-to-rise-1.3589009>

**LANGUAGE LEVEL:** Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) **4/5** or equivalent

**WARM UP QUESTIONS:** Have you ever received a ticket like the one in the picture? What was it for? How much was it?

**VOCABULARY ACTIVITY 1:** Look at the words and the meanings below.

WORD/EXPRESSION	MEANING
to think twice	to think carefully before doing something <i>You should <b>think twice</b> before quitting your job.</i>
in front of	ahead of something; facing something <i>He parked his car <b>in front of</b> her car. She stood <b>in front of</b> the mirror.</i>
approved	agreed to; given the OK to; said yes to <i>Her parents <b>approved</b> of her marriage.</i>
fine	a ticket; an amount of money owing as a penalty for breaking the law <i>He received a <b>fine</b> for driving too fast.</i>
hikes	sharp increases in price <i>There has been a recent <b>hike</b> in gas prices.</i>
a range of	a variety of; an assortment <i>New York City has a <b>range of</b> things for tourists to do.</i>
offences	wrongdoings; crimes <i>Parking too close to a fire hydrant is an <b>offence</b>.</i>
in line with	in alignment or agreement with <i>Not everyone at the meeting was <b>in line with</b> the decision made.</i>

**LISTENING ACTIVITY 1 (Audio Clip 0:09)**

Listen to the newscast for overall comprehension. Take notes below if you wish.

**LISTENING ACTIVITY 2 (Audio Clip 0:09)**

Listen to the newscast again. Respond to the questions below while you listen.

1. What should you think twice about?
2. What has the Calgary city council approved?
3. If approved, how much will fines increase?
4. When will the changes be discussed?

(See answer key or view script to check answers)

## EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Look at the pictures below. Think about or discuss with a partner the fines you can get with each photo.

1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		

## NEWSCAST 2

### BEER MILE CHAMPION GETS PAID BIG BUCKS TO DRINK BEER AND RUN



Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/sports/beer-mile-lewis-kent-contract-1.3586873>

**LANGUAGE LEVEL:** Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) **4/5** or equivalent

#### **WARM UP QUESTIONS:**

Look at the title and the picture. What do you think the picture is about?

#### **LISTENING ACTIVITY 1 (Audio Clip 0:56)**

Listen to the newscast for overall comprehension. While you listen, take notes below.

## **LISTENING ACTIVITY 2 (Audio Clip 0:56)**

Listen to the newscast again. While you listen, respond to the questions below.

1. How old is Lewis Kent?
2. What does he do?
3. How much will he get paid for the two-year deal he signed?
4. What is he getting paid for?
5. What company did he sign a deal with last year?
6. What is the beer mile race?
7. What is Kent's world record?

(See answer key or view script to check answers)

## **CONCLUSION**

Answer the following questions below.

- Do you think Canadians drink a lot? Why or why not?
- Do you think alcohol is a problem? Explain.
- If your boss and colleagues invited you to go to a pub with them on Friday afternoon, would you go? Why or why not?
- If you were invited to someone's house for dinner, what would you take?
- If you invited someone for dinner and they brought a bottle of wine, what would you do?

## VOCABULARY ASSOCIATED WITH DRINKING

Look at the following expressions related to drinking alcohol.

### Basic Drinking Vocabulary

- Jane drinks **beer** and **wine**, but not **hard liquor**.
- The barbecue on Sunday is a **BYOB** (Bring Your Own Booze) event.

### Slang words for beer and liquor:

- Would you like a **brew**?
- Jane, can you get me a **cold one** from the fridge?
- There is a lot of **booze** at the party tonight.
- I don't like **beer** or any of **the hard stuff**, but I do like **wine**.

### How to describe people who drink

- He is a heavy drinker.
- He's a big drinker.
- I like drinking.
- I'm not such a big drinker.
- I'm a lightweight.
- I don't drink so much.
- I'm not a beer drinker.
- He has a beer belly.
- I drink socially.

### Drinking Actions

- I had two **shots** of tequila.
- I hear his mom **drinks like a fish**.
- Jim can **drink anyone** we know **under the table**.
- We're going on a **pub crawl** for Jane's birthday.
- They really **tied one on last night**.

### Slang expressions and idioms to describe someone who is drunk:

- He's **bombed**.
- He's **three sheets to the wind**.
- He's **plastered**.
- He's as **drunk as a skunk**.
- He's **wasted**.

If you drink too much, you might feel sick the next day. We use have a hangover and be hung-over:

- I have a hangover.
- I am hung-over.

### NEWSCAST 3

#### CONFRONTATION IN GRANDE PRAIRIE PARKING LOT TURNED DEADLY



Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/grande-prairie-man-charged-with-murder-after-parking-lot-confrontation-turned-deadly-1.3586979>

**LANGUAGE LEVEL:** Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) 5 or equivalent

#### WARM UP QUESTIONS:

- Have you ever witnessed an accident or a crime? What did you do?
- Look at the title, what does confrontation mean? If you do not know, look up the meaning of the word (e.g. type in confrontation define in your browser).
- Based on the story, try to predict what the story may be about.

#### LISTENING ACTIVITY 1 (1:52)

Listen to the newscast once. Take notes below. After you listen, try to describe in your own words what happened.

#### SPEAKING ACTIVITY:

Describe in your own words what happened.

### VOCABULARY ACTIVITY:

Part 1: Read the script below. Look at the words in bold.

A Grande Prairie man has been **charged with second-degree murder** after a man died [of injuries] in a Home Hardware parking lot on Saturday.

The **incident** occurred when the **victim**, 34-year-old Nikkolas Steenhuisen, left the store in Grande Prairie the afternoon of May 14 and noticed a man inside his truck in the parking lot.

He **confronted** the man, who **fled** to another truck and tried to drive away. Steenhuisen ran after the man and was **pinned** between two vehicles when the truck **collided with** a parked vehicle.

The man then drove away, leaving the victim severely injured in the parking lot. Steenhuisen was taken to hospital in Grande Prairie, then airlifted by STARS to Edmonton. He died of his injuries on the way there.

Later that same day, police found a **burned-out** pickup truck in a rural area outside of the city. The truck was the same vehicle involved in the incident in the parking lot. Information from **witnesses** and evidence at the scene led to the arrest of a 30-year-old Grande Prairie man on May 16. He remains in **custody**, charged with second-degree murder and possession of stolen property. He is scheduled to appear in court on Friday.

The victim was from BC and was in town visiting family at the time. Police say he was a father of three young children.

Part 2: Match the words used above with their correct definition.

Answer	Word/Expression	Definition/Synonym
f	charged with	a) ran; escaped
	second-degree murder	b) unable to move; immobilized; restrained; stuck
	incident	c) a killing that was not planned in advance but took place as a result of an assault or "in the heat of the moment"
	victim	d) stood up to; came face-to-face with; challenged
	confronted	e) a vehicle or building destroyed or damaged by fire
	fled	f) accused of
	pinned	g) people who see an event, crime, or accident
	collided with	h) the protective care of someone; safekeeping; care
	burned-out	i) a person harmed, injured, or killed
	witnesses	j) crashed into; hit; struck; drove into; ran into
	custody	k) event; occurrence

### LISTENING ACTIVITY 2 (1:52)

Listen to the script for a third time. While you listen follow along with the script.

## ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 1

### INCREASED FINES IN CALGARY

#### LISTENING ACTIVITY 2

1. What should you think twice about?  
**You should think twice before parking in front of a fire hydrant.**
2. What has the Calgary city council approved?  
**A Calgary city council committee has approved increases for parking fines.**
3. If approved, how much will fines increase?  
**If approved, new fines will increase from \$36 to \$40.**
4. When will the changes be discussed?  
**Next month / City council will discuss the changes next month.**

## ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 2

### BEER MILE CHAMPION GETS PAID BIG BUCKS TO DRINK BEER AND RUN

#### LISTENING ACTIVITY 2

1. How old is Lewis Kent?  
**22**
2. What does he do?  
**He is a Canadian student at Western University in Ontario**
3. How much will he get paid for the two-year deal he signed?  
**\$100,000 or more**
4. What is he getting paid for?  
**He's getting paid to be an ambassador for the National Beer Mile race**
5. What company did he sign a deal with last year?  
**Brooks athletic equipment**
6. What is the beer mile race?  
**The beer mile race is a race where participants drink a can of beer, run a lap on a standard 400-metre track, then repeat that three more times**
7. What is Kent's world record?  
**Four minutes, 51.9 seconds / 4m 51.9s**

**ANSWER KEY FOR NEWSCAST 3**  
**CONFRONTATION IN GRANDE PRAIRIE PARKING LOT TURNED DEADLY**

**VOCABULARY ACTIVITY:**

Answer	Word/Expression	Definition/Synonym
<b>f</b>	charged with	a) ran; escaped
<b>c</b>	second-degree murder	b) unable to move; immobilized; restrained; stuck
<b>k</b>	incident	c) a killing that was not planned in advance but took place as a result of an assault or “in the heat of the moment”
<b>i</b>	victim	d) stood up to; came face-to-face with; challenged
<b>d</b>	confronted	e) a vehicle or building destroyed or damaged by fire
<b>a</b>	fled	f) accused of
<b>b</b>	pinned	g) people who see an event, crime, or accident
<b>j</b>	collided with	h) the protective care of someone; safekeeping; care
<b>e</b>	burned-out	i) a person harmed, injured, or killed
<b>g</b>	witnesses	j) crashed into; hit; struck; drove into; ran into
<b>h</b>	custody	k) event; occurrence

## TRANSCRIPTS OF WEEKLY NEWSCASTS

	WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	Hi. This is Natasha Frakes. You're listening to Learning English with CBC for the week of May 23rd.	0:00
<b>NEWSCAST 1</b>  <b>INCREASED FINES IN CALGARY</b>  Source: <a href="http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/calgary-parking-tickets-set-to-rise-1.3589009">http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/calgary-parking-tickets-set-to-rise-1.3589009</a>	<p>You might want to think twice before parking in front of that fire hydrant. A Calgary city council committee has approved increases for parking fines.</p> <p>The hikes would apply to a range of the most common offences — things like parking in a crosswalk or too close to a fire hydrant.</p> <p>The increases would bring city parking fines in line with provincial legislation. If approved, the new fines will increase from \$36 to \$40 — if you pay your ticket within 10 days of the offence.</p> <p>City council will discuss the changes next month.</p>	0:09
<b>NEWSCAST 2</b>  <b>BEER MILE CHAMPION GETS PAID BIG BUCKS TO DRINK BEER AND RUN</b>  Source: <a href="http://www.cbc.ca/sports/beer-mile-lewis-kent-contract-1.3586873">http://www.cbc.ca/sports/beer-mile-lewis-kent-contract-1.3586873</a>	<p>Lewis Kent, a 22 year-old Canadian student at Western University in Ontario has signed a two-year deal that will pay him \$100,000 or more to be an ambassador for the National Beer Mile race.</p> <p>Last year he signed a similar type contract with Brooks athletic equipment.</p> <p>So what is the beer mile race? It's pretty simple: drink a can of beer, run a lap on a standard 400-metre track, then repeat that three more times. That's four beers, four laps. Kent's world record is four minutes, 51.9 seconds, which isn't bad even if he didn't drink four beers during that time.</p>	0:56

<p><b>NEWSCAST 3</b></p> <p><b>CONFRONTATION IN GRANDE PRAIRIE PARKING LOT TURNED DEADLY</b></p> <p>Source:  <a href="http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/grande-prairie-man-charged-with-murder-after-parking-lot-confrontation-turned-deadly-1.3586979">http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/grande-prairie-man-charged-with-murder-after-parking-lot-confrontation-turned-deadly-1.3586979</a></p>	<p>A Grande Prairie man has been charged with second-degree murder after a man died [of injuries] in a Home Hardware parking lot on Saturday.</p> <p>The incident occurred when the victim, 34-year old Nikkolas Steenhuisen, left the store in Grande Prairie the afternoon of May 14 and noticed a man inside his truck in the parking lot.</p> <p>He confronted the man, who fled to another truck and tried to drive away. Steenhuisen ran after the man and was pinned between two vehicles when the truck collided with a parked vehicle.</p> <p>The man then drove away, leaving the victim severely injured in the parking lot. Steenhuisen was taken to hospital in Grande Prairie, then airlifted by STARS to Edmonton. He died of his injuries on the way there.</p> <p>Later that same day, police found a burned-out pickup truck in a rural area outside of the city. The truck was the same vehicle involved in the incident in the parking lot.</p> <p>Information from witnesses and evidence at the scene led to the arrest of a 30-year-old Grande Prairie man on May 16. He remains in custody, charged with second-degree murder and possession of stolen property. He is scheduled to appear in court on Friday.</p> <p>The victim was from BC and was in town visiting family at the time. Police say he was a father of three young children.</p>	<p>1:52</p>
--	---	-------------

---

Thank you for using this Learning English with CBC Lesson. If you have any questions or comments, please email ESL Consultant for Learning English with CBC at [info@communication4Integration.ca](mailto:info@communication4Integration.ca)